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1
                   IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
 2
                    FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
 3
                             DALLAS DIVISION
      IAN O. JOHNSON,
 4
                                   ) CASE NO. 3:08-CV-2215-0
 5
                Plaintiff,
                                   ) DALLAS, TEXAS
 6
      VERSUS
                                     JULY 21, 2010
 7
      DALLAS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL
      DISTRICT,
8
                Defendant.
                                   ) 11:58 A.M.
9
10
                               VOLUME 1 OF 1
                      TRANSCRIPT OF EMERGENCY HEARING
                    BEFORE THE HONORABLE REED O'CONNOR
11
                   UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT JUDGE
12
13
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1	PROCEEDINGS
2	July 21, 2010 - 11:58 a.m.
3	THE COURT: Okay. I call Johnson versus DISD, Case
4	Number 3:08-CV-2215.
5	Okay. Mr. Clark and Mr. Duffy?
6	MR. CLARK: Yes, Your Honor.
7	THE COURT: Very good. Who is here for DISD? Are
8	you Ms. Soto?
9	MS. SOTO: Yes, sir.
10	THE COURT: Okay. Are you taking the lead?
11	MS. SOTO: No.
12	MR. HAMMEL: Your Honor, my name is William Hammel.
13	I will be taking the lead today. I filed a notice of
14	appearance, I believe, yesterday.
15	THE COURT: All right, Mr. Hammel.
16	MS. SOTO: And I will be addressing the motion to
17	continue.
18	THE COURT: Okay. Well, I want to talk to you about
19	that when we get to it.
20	[Okay. Now, with respect to the Motion for Leave to
21	Amend the DISD's Answer, I find as follows:
22	Because DISD's request to amend its answer occurs
23	after the expiration of the deadline for allowing amended
24	pleadings, DISD is required to establish good cause. There
25	are four factors relevant to this. DISD must show:

One, the explanation for the failure to timely move 1 2 for leave to amend; Number two, the importance of the amendment; 3 4 Three, the potential prejudice in allowing the 5 amendment; 6 And four, the availability of a continuance to cure 7 such prejudice -- or the DISD needs to address these issues. 8 Addressing these issues, I find and conclude as 9 follows: 10 Number one, with respect to the explanation for the 11 failure to timely move for leave to amend, the Fifth Circuit 12 has previously indicated that Congress did not waive sovereign 13 immunity with respect to the self-help provision in the FMLA. 14 While it is true that the Texas Supreme Court 15 recently directly held that Congress did not waive sovereign 16 immunity for the self-help provision in FMLA, this does not 17 excuse DISD's failure to raise this defense earlier pursuant to a preexisting Fifth Circuit authority. This factor weighs 18 19 against allowing the amendment. 20 With respect to the second factor, the importance of the amendment, this factor weighs in favor of the allowing the 21 22 amendment. The defense DISD seeks to assert goes to the heart 23 of the balance between federal and state relations and would 24 ameliorate the damage -- the damage claims asserted by 25 plaintiff because, if proven, this defense deprives federal

courts of the power to hear a suit of this nature to the extent it seeks damages.

With respect to the third prong, the potential prejudice in allowing the amendment, this factor also weighs in favor of permitting the amendment. The amended defense relates only to a legal issue, whether DISD is immune from plaintiff's suit for damages. While plaintiff asserts he needs additional discovery to determine if DISD waived its defense by conduct, he provides no basis for the belief that DISD may have waived its defense by conduct.

The case he cites stands for the proposition that a state entity that contracts with a private party may take extraordinary acts that waive it's immunity by conduct, and there is no showing that similar facts may exist in this case, at least as stated in opposition.

And then finally, with respect to the availability of a continuance to cure any prejudice, I find that for the same reasons stated in the potential prejudice discussion, this argument weighs in favor of permitting the amendment. It appears to go to a purely legal issue and there does not appear to be a need for a continuance.

After balancing all of these factors, I find that the amendment should be permitted, and DISD will be permitted to amend its answer, and the amended answer attached to its motion to leave -- Motion for Leave to Amend is deemed filed.

Now, I will hear whoever is going to take the lead 1 2 on arguing the motion to -- the Motion to Dismiss now. 3 MR. HAMMEL: [May it please the Court? 4 THE COURT: Yes. 5 MR. HAMMEL: Thank you, Your Honor. 6 Again, my name is William Hammel. I'm an attorney 7 for DISD. As you mentioned, we're now here on a Motion to 8 Dismiss. This is the amendment that the Court just allowed. 9 DISD filed a -- various Rule 12 motions. We don't 10 exactly know the proper procedure to get this before the 11 Court, but we know it's one of them. We believe this is a 12 matter of jurisdiction and we are moving for a complete 13 dismissal of all claims based upon immunity. 14 Now, in a response filed I believe either yesterday 15 or at the close of business the day before, plaintiffs were 16 raising some new issues here with respect to the application 17 of immunity. They are citing a case, and I believe it's a Texas Supreme Court case by the name of McKinney, and that is 18 19 in the pleadings and we have some extra copies for the Court 20 if the Court would like to see that. 21 But they are taking the position that the immunity 22 that we are trying -- that we are pleading in this case does 23 not apply because it does not apply to a school district such 24 as DISD. 25 We filed a reply this morning, tried to get a

courtesy copy to Your Honor, but we know that --1 2 THE COURT: I've read it. MR. HAMMEL: Oh, okay. We think all of the cases 3 4 cited by the plaintiff here are distinguishable. They are 5 blending the concepts of governmental immunity and sovereign 6 immunity, which we've set out for the Court is one and the 7 They also bring -- make a distinction between liability 8 from suit versus liability from -- I'm sorry, immunity from 9 suit versus immunity from damages. We are expressively not 10 making an immunity from suit challenge. I believe that was 11 probably taken care of when we removed to this court. 12 So for a number of reasons, it looks like the 13 McKinney case does not apply to the situation, and especially 14 their -- the context of that case was a res judicata claim, a 15 res judicata defense, so the Court specifically found there 16 that they were dealing with liability from suit -- I'm sorry, 17 immunity from suit and not immunity from liability. We think the Herrera case does apply to school 18 19 districts such as DISD, and that's about where we are, Your 20 Honor. 21 The issue -- the plaintiff has sued DISD THE COURT: 22 for FMLA violations. 23 MR. HAMMEL: Correct, yes. 24 THE COURT: And the issue in the Supreme Court, the 25 Herrera Texas Supreme Court case, and in the Fifth Circuit

Nelson case, dealt with whether state sovereign immunity had 1 2 been waived when Congress passed the FMLA for the self-help 3 provision of the FMLA. MR. HAMMEL: For the limited Eleventh Amendment 4 5 immunity, yes, Your Honor, that's correct. 6 THE COURT: And so isn't the question 7 whether -- based -- isn't the question then whether DISD is a 8 state, for purposes of Eleventh Amendment, when determining if the plaintiff can recover damages from DISD under the FMLA? 9 10 MR. HAMMEL: We do not think so, Your Honor. We do 11 not intend to make a claim of immunity under the Eleventh 12 Amendment. It's more of --13 THE COURT: So what did Herrera then decide with 14 respect to the FMLA and the suit that the plaintiff brought in 15 that case regarding the FMLA? 16 MR. HAMMEL: That is what Herrera said, Your Honor, 17 that, here Eleventh Amendment immunity applied, and there could not be a claim -- there was immunity from suit. 18 19 They also get into a discussion about immunity from 20 liability also, and in our reply, we at least tried to give 21 Your Honor the cases showing that, well, look, there is a 22 distinction between Eleventh Amendment immunity and just 23 general sovereign/governmental immunity. 24 So if this -- if we were making a claim purely under 25 Herrera and not asking the Court to take it, you know, read

into the -- read what Herrera is saying, see that it goes a 1 2 little beyond their one particular challenge, that is 3 what -- that is our position, Your Honor. 4 THE COURT: So your -- so your argument is not 5 Eleventh Amendment immunity? 6 MR. HAMMEL: No, Your Honor. It's very similar and, 7 frankly, they're derived -- the immunity is -- I believe we 8 gave Your Honor the cases. They are kind of derived from the 9 same thing, but it is a different claim. 10 THE COURT: Uh-huh. So can cities enact ordinances that say we're sovereign and plaintiffs cannot recover money 11 12 damages from us under federal statutes, they can only recover 13 prospective relief? 14 MR. HAMMEL: I believe so. 15 THE COURT: So the City of Dallas then could pass an 16 ordinance that says the ADA applies to us, Americans with 17 Disabilities Act applies to us. 18 MR. HAMMEL: Uh-huh, yes, sir. 19 THE COURT: And we're going to try to comply with 20 the ADA, but where we do not comply with the ADA, a plaintiff 21 cannot obtain money damages from us if we violate the terms of 22 the ADA and damage a plaintiff, but a plaintiff can certainly 23 recover prospective relief from us. They can force us to 24 change our policies, or put in a ramp, or something like that. 25 MR. HAMMEL: Yes, Your Honor.

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                THE COURT: Do you believe that a city -- that
2
     Dallas could properly do that?
 3
                MR. HAMMEL: I think that does get back to the
 4
     Fourteenth Amendment and can Congress validly abrogate that
 5
     immunity. So, yes, I do believe that the city can do that.
 6
     don't know how long it would survive though.
 7
                THE COURT: And you don't know how long that would
8
     survive --
9
               MR. HAMMEL: In light --
10
                THE COURT: And why do you say that?
11
               MR. HAMMEL: -- of a challenge.
12
                THE COURT: What would the challenge be?
13
                MR. HAMMEL: Well, it depends on the legal nature of
14
     the challenge. If it was a pure Eleventh Amendment immunity
     claim then we believe there would be a distinction between
15
16
     liability from suit and liability from damages.
                THE COURT: Yeah, but it's a city. It's not the
17
     state.
18
19
                MR. HAMMEL: I'm sorry, Your Honor.
20
                THE COURT: So the City of Dallas would lose if
21
     their defense in that case would be an Eleventh Amendment
22
     defense?
23
                MR. HAMMEL: I believe so, yes, Your Honor.
24
                THE COURT: And so what other challenge then would
25
     this -- what other defense would the city raise in a challenge
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by a plaintiff who brings a case that says Congress has said
1
2
     I'm entitled to damages?
                MR. HAMMEL: Well, I mean -- I'm sorry. Can Your
 3
 4
     Honor repeat the question?
 5
                THE COURT: So what other defense would the city
6
     raise to support the ordinance that they have implemented?
 7
                MR. HAMMEL: A broader governmental sovereign
8
     immunity that we're citing to in our reply.
9
                THE COURT: All right. Very good.
                                                    Thank you.
10
                MR. HAMMEL: Thank you, Your Honor.
11
                THE COURT: Okay. Who is going to take the argument
12
     for the plaintiff?
13
                MR. CLARK: [I will, Your Honor.
14
                I'm somewhat confused by DISD's position because if
     I look at their motion, they are urging an absolute defense of
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16
     immunity to liability based on the Herrera decision. Herrera
17
     decided the issue, at least for Texas, as it relates to the
18
     self-care provisions of the FMLA in terms of recovery of
19
     damages against the state under the Eleventh Amendment.
20
                We have cited to you the McKinney case, which is
21
     another Texas Supreme Court case that is pretty clear that the
22
     state Eleventh Amendment immunity defense does not carry down
23
     to cities, counties, or school districts. And the McKinney
24
     case cites --
25
                THE COURT:
                            But I gather he's saying he is not
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claiming Eleventh Amendment immunity. He is claiming official or governmental immunity.

MR. CLARK: I don't see that defense asserted in the Motion to Dismiss, nor do I believe that defense is applicable given the fact that all the cases that have dealt with the issue of the FMLA and the self care and whether Congress intended to waive immunity have recognized that Congress, in enacting the FMLA, clearly intended to waive immunity.

The issue is, under the Fourteenth Amendment in Section 5, whether they validly could abrogate the immunity of the states for a suit for damages under the self-care provision against a state entity under the Eleventh Amendment.

So if that is not the defense they are urging, then

So if that is not the defense they are urging, then I don't know what their argument is because, basically, what McKinney holds, and the Fifth Circuit held in the Lopez case, which was cited by McKinney, and Judge Fish decided in the Chapman case, which we also cited in our brief, they all basically say the same thing, which is that the school district is amenable to a suit under federal law for damages.

They are not considered an agency of the state for purposes of a suit for damages based on federal law. We have sued for damages based on the FMLA. If they don't have an Eleventh Amendment immunity defense from that suit for damages, then we are entitled to go forward with our FMLA claim.

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I might point out, too, that the Fifth Circuit in the Nelson case dealt with the issue of prescriptive relief, and specifically the issue of whether or not reinstatement would be allowed even if the Eleventh Amendment barred a suit for damages under this self-care provision, and the Fifth Circuit held that it would under the Ex Parte Younger exception. So --THE COURT: So you're saying that you -- even if I grant their motion, that you still have a case for prospective relief, that is, reinstatement of your claim? MR. CLARK: Pursuant to Nelson, but I think we have a claim for damages as well. Because if they don't have the Eleventh Amendment defense, there is no question Congress enacted the FMLA to express -- there was an express abrogation of immunity. And so if they are not considered an agency of the state under the Eleventh Amendment, they are amenable to suit under a federal statute in federal court, and that's the clear holding of McKinney, and Lopez versus Houston ISD, and the Chapman Dallas County Commissioner's Court case. THE COURT: All right. Crystal? (Off-the-record bench conference with law clerk) THE COURT: [Okay. I will now address the merits of the sovereign immunity defense. The U.S. Supreme Court has stated that in determining whether a defendant is entitled to protection from federal suit under the Eleventh Amendment, a

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Court first looks to state law to determine the characterization of the defendant. And that cite for that proposition is Mount Healthy City School District Board of Education v. Doyle 429 U.S. 274, 1977.

The bar of the Eleventh Amendment to suit in federal courts extends to states and state officials in appropriate circumstances, but does not extend to counties and similar municipal corporations.

So with respect to the Eleventh Amendment, the issue turns on whether DISD is treated as an arm of the state partaking of the state's Eleventh Amendment immunity, or is instead to be treated as municipal corporation or other political subdivision to which the Eleventh Amendment does not extend. Under the Eleventh Amendment, the answer depends, at least in part, upon the nature of the entity created by state law.

I'll now turn to the characterization of an independent school district under Texas law. The Texas Supreme Court has held that a Texas independent school district is more like a city or county than it is like an arm of the State of Texas. Therefore, the Texas Supreme Court has held that under Texas law, an independent school district is amenable to suit in federal court under the Eleventh Amendment to the United States Constitution. And that is found at San Antonio Independent School District v. McKinney, 936 S.W.2d

279, 1996.

Because independent school districts in Texas are not considered arms of the State of Texas for Eleventh

Amendment purposes, DISD may not successfully assert Eleventh

Amendment immunity from suit in federal courts as DISD concedes is true in this hearing.

And the plaintiff cites Judge Fish finding a similar result as well, and so I don't need to recite that particular since the DISD is not asserting Eleventh Amendment immunity in this case.

Meyers -- DISD does cite Meyers v. Texas in the

Fifth Circuit in support of its claim. It appears to me that
the Meyers citation or reliance on Meyers is misplaced.

Meyers holds that a state defendant waives its sovereign
immunity when it removes a case from state court to federal
court.

There, Meyers — the Meyers case says that the law of each state determines the nature of its immunities; thus, it is possible that a state may retain a separate immunity from liability after waiver of its immunity from suit. Meyers explains that even when a state waives its sovereign immunity, for example, by removing the case to federal court, it may still assert any state statute that makes it immune from liability.

Here, DISD is not a state actor. Even so, and even

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affording DISD the argument that it's not moving for Eleventh Amendment dismissal, but for another immunity dismissal, I find that the defendant DISD has pled sovereign immunity and that seems to indicate the Eleventh Amendment argument. But even so, DISD has not identified another state law that otherwise limits its liability. Rather, DISD has pointed only to the Herrera Texas Supreme Court case. Herrera's holding is not adequate to support DISD's position. Herrera holds that a state enjoys Eleventh Amendment immunity from private damage suits under the self-care provision of FMLA. Herrera does not provide immunity from liability and does not otherwise limit liability. As DISD has not identified any other provision of Texas law that limits its liability, I find its Motion to Dismiss should be denied. So that will be my ruling on the Emergency Motion to Dismiss. All right. Ms. Soto, let me hear from you on why your continuance should be granted. MS. SOTO: [Your Honor, currently --THE COURT: Come on over to the podium, please. MS. SOTO: Mr. Ronquillo couldn't be here because right now we're still picking a jury, so we have had several delays in our Granoff trial. Now, as I recall, one of the reasons we THE COURT:

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set next week for your trial was because the trial this week
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2
      was specially set, but it doesn't sound like a very special
      setting if you haven't started --
 3
 4
                MS. SOTO: That's correct. We have had --
 5
                THE COURT: -- on the date you were specially set.
 6
                MS. SOTO: Right.
 7
                THE COURT: And so why is it now that I need to bump
8
      this case again, because I've already bumped it one time.
9
                MS. SOTO: I understand.
10
                THE COURT: Why is it that I need to bump this case
11
     again, when I specially set the case, and I specially set it
12
      on this date to accommodate for your pregnancy and to
13
     accommodate Mr. Ronquillo's trial schedule, other -- with
14
     respect to other settings, including this setting.
15
                MS. SOTO: Yes. Well, we were specially set on the
      12<sup>th</sup>.
16
             There's been delays.
                THE COURT: What were the delays?
17
                MS. SOTO: The delays were the Judge didn't start on
18
     the 12^{th}.
19
20
                THE COURT: Why is that?
21
                MS. SOTO: We were not given a reason. They
22
      just -- the court called and said, we're not starting Monday,
     the 12<sup>th</sup>. Go ahead and show up Tuesday at 9:00, and then we
23
24
     got another call saying show up at 1:30, and then there's been
25
      delays ever since.
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And in state court, Judge Tobolowsky does not do
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2
     Fridays, so we only had Wednesday and Thursday for pretrial
 3
     motions and half-day Thursday because she had -- she had to
 4
     get ready for the docket on Friday.
 5
                So we started picking a jury late, and we're still
6
     doing that currently, so I had to get out of that trial to
 7
     address this Motion for Continuance.
8
                THE COURT: Well, is there other lawyers who can try
9
     this case?
10
                MS. SOTO: Yes.
                THE COURT: At your firm?
11
12
               MS. SOTO: Yes.
13
                THE COURT: And they are ready to try it?
14
               MS. SOTO: This case?
                THE COURT: DISD versus Johnson -- or Johnson versus
15
16
     DISD.
                MS. SOTO: Well, we only have one other attorney on
17
18
     this case, so, no, because I'm on the Granoff team as well, so
19
     Mr. Ronquillo and I are not available.
20
                THE COURT: Well, is there anyone else in your firm
21
     who can try that case?
22
                MS. SOTO: Yes, there is. There is one other
23
     attorney that can try some of the case, but Mr. Ronquillo is
24
     taking on most of the major witnesses.
25
                But we're ready on this case. It's just the delays
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from that other case.
1
 2
                THE COURT: Well, but you want a 90-day continuance?
 3
                MS. SOTO: Well, only because we had another trial,
 4
     but that's cleared up, so we have all of August, except for
 5
     the 2nd.
 6
                THE COURT: Well, what -- when -- the -- the case
 7
     that you're, I guess, in trial in right now at state court is
8
     going to last a week?
9
                MS. SOTO: Probably two weeks.
10
                THE COURT: Well, then how was -- how is it then
11
     that I was able to set, specially set, Johnson versus DISD on
12
     Monday, when you were scheduled to start this -- when did you
13
     start?
14
               MS. SOTO: It was for two weeks, so it would have
15
     been --
16
                THE COURT: So you started this case last week?
17
                MS. SOTO: Yes. We started it last week, and we
18
     have had several delays, and so now we're really starting this
19
     week. So we lost a week and a half, basically, and that's why
20
     we only asked for a couple of days because we thought it will
     spill in a couple of days, but we're ready to go, and now that
21
22
     it's been delayed once again, we're thinking we probably need
23
     the first week of August.
24
                So we asked for 90 days only because we have another
25
     trial set, but that has cleared since, since we filed.
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we're asking for a very short delay, basically.
1
2
                THE COURT: All right. Let me hear from the
 3
      plaintiff.
                MR. CLARK: [Your Honor, we -- we didn't oppose
 4
5
      their request for a continuance based on what I understand the
6
      situation to be in the Granoff trial, because I understand
 7
      that Mr. Ronquillo is lead counsel, both in that case and this
8
      case. And having been a litigator for 30 years, I understand
9
      the conflict issue in terms of not being able to be in the
10
      same place.
11
                THE COURT: Well, they had asked for a 90 days, and
12
      you were unopposed to 90 days, and now they are asking for a
13
      few days. Are you unopposed to a few days?
14
                MR. CLARK: Well, I'm not unopposed to doing this
      trial in August. I just agreed to reset an arbitration
15
     hearing to August the 11<sup>th</sup> and so that -- the two conflicts
16
17
      that I have in August, that I would at least bring to the
18
      Court's attention, is a resetted -- a reset arbitration
      hearing for the 11<sup>th</sup>.
19
20
                If need be, I can go back and see if we can get it
21
      moved again, but it's under the expedited rules. And then I
22
      have a major bankruptcy motion hearing that's been set on the
      24<sup>th</sup>.
23
                So if we were to do it the week of the 16<sup>th</sup>, I
24
25
      don't know what the Court's availability is, but I could do it
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1
     that week. If we're looking at the week of the 9th, then I'm
2
      going to have to see if I can get this arbitration hearing
      moved again. It was set originally in June. We cleared it
 3
      out because of the conflicting settings, got reset to early
 4
 5
      July, they had a conflict, and now we're in August.
6
                THE COURT: All right. And when is this trial in
 7
      the state court going to be over?
8
                MS. SOTO: We're hoping it will be over probably the
9
      4th.
10
                THE COURT: Of August?
11
                MS. SOTO: Or sooner, yes.
12
                THE COURT: Tyler, what --
13
                (Off-the-record bench conference with courtroom
14
                deputy).
                THE COURT: Okay. All right. What about the 30<sup>th</sup>
15
16
      of August? Wait, wait, wait.
17
                 (Off-the-record bench conference with courtroom
18
                deputy).
                THE COURT: What about September 13<sup>th</sup>?
19
20
                MR. CLARK: Your Honor, I'm set for trial in Judge
      Folsom's court the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>.
21
22
                THE COURT:
                             Two days?
23
                MR. CLARK:
                             Two days.
24
                THE COURT:
                             Two-day trial?
25
                MR. CLARK:
                             Uh-huh. It's to the Court.
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THE COURT: To the Court. What about the 20<sup>th</sup>?
1
 2
                MR. CLARK:
                            I'm open.
 3
                THE COURT: Okay. Ms. Soto?
                MS. SOTO: Again, Mr. Ronquillo is open, but I won't
 4
 5
      be.
           That's why I wanted to do it in August.
 6
                THE COURT: The problem is --
 7
                MS. SOTO: I understand.
                THE COURT: I got you a date that you can't make and
8
9
     you are -- which is why I -- my memory is why we set it for
10
     this date and, otherwise, you're -- unless you're asking me to
11
     reset other trials that I've got set, and really the only
12
      trials that I have set in August are criminal trials, which I
13
     can't just reset.
14
                So I just -- you said you cannot be here on
     August 9^{th}, right, or August -- what day could you not be
15
16
     here?
17
                MR. CLARK: I have an arbitration hearing set on
     August the 11th.
18
                THE COURT: The 11<sup>th</sup>, okay. And how long does
19
20
      that last?
21
                MR. CLARK: It's a one-day hearing.
22
                            Okay. Well, why don't we try it the
                THE COURT:
23
      9th and start it -- how long is this trial going to be?
24
                MR. CLARK: I would think --
25
                MS. SOTO:
                           We estimated four days, Your Honor.
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1
                MR. CLARK: I would say three to four days.
                 THE COURT: All right. Well, why don't we start it
 2
      on August 9<sup>th</sup>. Are you ready on your arbitration or are you
 3
      going to be ready to where you could start the 9th, 10th, take
 4
      off the 11<sup>th</sup>, and come back the 12<sup>th</sup>?
 5
 6
                 MR. CLARK: If I have to. I mean, I've got -- we
 7
      have depositions in that case on the 6th that are already
 8
      scheduled. I think --
                 THE COURT: Okay. Well, do you want it on the 9th
 9
      or -- do you want August 9<sup>th</sup> or do you want it in September?
10
      Because that's the only way I can fit it in in August.
11
12
                 MR. CLARK: Right. I mean, the September date works
13
      better for me. I'm willing to go and see if we can get the
14
      arbitration hearing moved, and if I can get it moved, then I'm
      willing to do it on the 9th.
15
                 THE COURT: Okay. This is set for trial beginning
16
      at 9:00 a.m., Friday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2010.
17
                 So order the jury for that day.
18
19
                 COURTROOM DEPUTY: Yes, sir.
20
                 THE COURT: And if you both are able to and
21
      want -- if you want to move it to the August 9 date, then you
      have to file an agreed motion to move it to August 9<sup>th</sup>. And
22
      if you file an agreed motion, I'll move it to August 9<sup>th</sup>.
23
      But if it's not agreed to, the trial is set in September.
24
                 MR. CLARK: The 17<sup>th</sup>?
25
```

```
1
                COURTROOM DEPUTY: Yes, sir.
2
                THE COURT: Okay.
                MS. SOTO: You said the 13<sup>th</sup>? September 13<sup>th</sup>?
 3
                THE COURT: No, 17<sup>th</sup>. Friday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at
 4
 5
      9:00 a.m.
 6
                MR. CLARK: Will we -- will we be working that
 7
      Saturday as well in trial or just pick a jury and --
8
                THE COURT: No. No. We'll pick a jury at nine in
9
      the morning and we'll start testimony, and then we'll see if
10
      we need to work over the weekend or not.
                MR. CLARK: Okay.
11
12
                THE COURT: We'll see how far we get.
13
                MR. CLARK: All right.
14
                THE COURT: Is that a problem?
15
                MR. CLARK: No. No. I just wanted to get an idea
16
      in terms of schedules and trying to plan ahead of time.
17
                THE COURT: So anything else?
                MR. CLARK: Nothing else.
18
19
                MS. SOTO: No, Your Honor.
20
                MR. HAMMEL: No, Your Honor.
21
                THE COURT: Okay. Then we're in recess. Thank you.
22
                COURT SECURITY OFFICER: All rise.
23
                 (End of Proceedings)
24
25
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1		REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE	
2	I, Debra G. Saenz, CSR, RMR, CRR, certify that the		
3	foregoing is a true and correct transcript from the record		
4	of proceedings in the foregoing entitled matter.		
5	I further certify that the transcript fees format		
6	comply with those prescribed by the Court and the Judicial		
7	Conference of the United States.		
8	Signed this 3rd day of August, 2010.		
9			
10		/s/ Debra G. Saenz	
11	DEBRA G. SAENZ, CSR, RMR, CRR		
12	Texas CSR No. 3158 Temporary Official Court Reporter		
13		The Northern District of Texas Fort Worth Division	
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